Patent Claims

1. A compressed-gas-insulated switching device (1) having a grounded encapsulating housing (2) composed of electrically conductive material, with an electrical phase conductor (3) being arranged in an electrically insulated manner within the encapsulating housing (2), having the following features:

- the encapsulating housing (2) has a first and a second flange (5, 6),
- a first insulating housing (12), which surrounds an interrupter unit (15) of a circuit breaker, is connected to the first flange (5) via a first coupling housing (8),
- a second insulating housing (13), which surrounds a switch disconnector, is connected to the second flange (6) via a second coupling housing (9),
- a first connecting point of the main current path of the interrupter unit (15) is connected to the phase conductor (3),
- a first connecting point of the switch disconnector is connected to the phase conductor (3),
- a second connecting point of the main current path of the interrupter unit (15) is passed to the exterior from the interior of the first insulating housing (12),
- a second connecting point of the switch disconnector is passed to the exterior from the interior of the second insulating housing (13).

2. The compressed-gas-insulated switching device (1) as claimed in claim 1,
characterized in that
a drive device (18) is coupled to the first coupling housing (8) in order to move a movable contact piece of the switch disconnector.

3. The compressed-gas-insulated switching device (1) as claimed in claim 1 or 2,
characterized in that
a drive device (22) is coupled to the second coupling housing (9) in order to move a movable contact piece of the interrupter unit (15) of the circuit breaker.

4. The compressed-gas-insulated switching device (1) as claimed in one of claims 1 to 3,
characterized in that
the first insulating housing (12) together with the interrupter unit (15) and the first coupling housing (8) can be interchanged with the second insulating housing (12) together with the switch disconnector and the second coupling housing (9).

5. The compressed-gas-insulated switching device (1) as claimed in one of claims 2 to 4,
characterized in that
a drive shaft (19) passes through one wall of each coupling housing (8, 9, 10).

6. The compressed-gas-insulated switching device (1) as claimed in one of claims 2 to 5,
characterized in that
the drive devices (18, 22) are arranged on the outer circumference of the respective coupling housings (8, 9, 10), and are supported by the respective encapsulating housings (2).

Re Box V.

1 The following document is referred to:

D1: PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN volume 003, No. 090 (E-127), 31 July 1979 (1979-07-31) & JP 54 068942 A (TOSHIBA CORP), 2 June 1979 (1979-06-02)

2 INDEPENDENT CLAIM 1

2.1 The present application does not meet the requirements of PCT Article 33(1) because the subject matter of claim 1 is not novel in the meaning of PCT Article 33(2).

Document D1 discloses (the references between parentheses relate to this document) a compressed-gas-insulated switching device (Figure 3) having a grounded encapsulating housing (30) composed of electrically conductive material, with an electrical phase conductor (31) being arranged in an electrically insulated manner within the encapsulating housing (30), having the following features:

- the encapsulating housing (30) has a first and a second flange (Figure 3),
- a first insulating housing (20), which surrounds an interrupter unit of a circuit breaker (4), is connected to the first flange via a first coupling housing (3b),
- a second insulating housing (10), which surrounds a switch disconnector (2), is connected to the second flange via a second coupling housing (3a),
- a first connecting point of the main current path of the interrupter unit (4) is connected to the phase conductor (31),
- a first connecting point of the switch disconnector is connected to the phase conductor (31),
- a second connecting point of the main current path of the interrupter unit (4) is passed to the exterior (5) from the interior or the first insulating housing (20),

- a second connecting point of the switch disconnector (2) is passed to the exterior (1) from the interior of the second insulating housing (10).

3 Comments

As is evident from pages 1, 3 of the description and from the abstract, the following feature is significant to the definition of the invention:

The first insulating housing together with the interrupter unit and the first coupling housing, and the second insulating housing together with the switch disconnector and the second coupling housing are interchangeable.

Since the independent claim 1 does not include this feature, it does not meet the requirements of PCT Article 6 in conjunction with PCT Rule 6.3 b) since every independent claim must include all of the technical features which are significant to the definition of the invention.